

BUSCH RALPH B III  
Form 4  
January 03, 2006

**FORM 4**

**UNITED STATES SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION  
Washington, D.C. 20549**

OMB APPROVAL

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Check this box if no longer subject to Section 16. Form 4 or Form 5 obligations may continue. See Instruction 1(b).

**STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN BENEFICIAL OWNERSHIP OF SECURITIES**

Filed pursuant to Section 16(a) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, Section 17(a) of the Public Utility Holding Company Act of 1935 or Section 30(h) of the Investment Company Act of 1940

(Print or Type Responses)

1. Name and Address of Reporting Person \*  
BUSCH RALPH B III

(Last) (First) (Middle)

C/O BERRY PETROLEUM  
COMPANY, 5201 TRUXTUN  
AVE., SUITE 300

(Street)

BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309

(City) (State) (Zip)

2. Issuer Name and Ticker or Trading Symbol  
BERRY PETROLEUM CO [BRY]

3. Date of Earliest Transaction  
(Month/Day/Year)  
12/30/2005

4. If Amendment, Date Original Filed(Month/Day/Year)

5. Relationship of Reporting Person(s) to Issuer

(Check all applicable)

Director  10% Owner  
 Officer (give title below)  Other (specify below)

6. Individual or Joint/Group Filing(Check Applicable Line)

Form filed by One Reporting Person  
 Form filed by More than One Reporting Person

**Table I - Non-Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**

1. Title of Security (Instr. 3)	2. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	2A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	3. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	4. Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4 and 5)	5. Amount of Securities Beneficially Owned Following Reported Transaction(s) (Instr. 3 and 4)	6. Ownership Form: Direct (D) or Indirect (I) (Instr. 4)	7. Nature of Indirect Beneficial Ownership (Instr. 4)
				(A) or (D)	Price		
				Code	V	Amount	
Class A Common Stock	12/27/2005		G	V	4,000	D	\$ 0 (4) 79,039
Class A Common Stock	12/27/2005		G	V	350	D	\$ 0 78,689
Class A Common Stock						I	49,875 (1) As Co-Trustee of a Charitable Remainder

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Class A Common Stock						64,020	I	Trust (2) As Co-Trustee of shares held in a trust at Union Bank of California
Class A Common Stock	12/27/2005		G V	4,000	A	\$ 0 (5)	4,000	I (5) Busch Family Foundation

Reminder: Report on a separate line for each class of securities beneficially owned directly or indirectly.

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(9-02)

**Table II - Derivative Securities Acquired, Disposed of, or Beneficially Owned**  
(e.g., puts, calls, warrants, options, convertible securities)

1. Title of Derivative Security (Instr. 3)	2. Conversion or Exercise Price of Derivative Security	3. Transaction Date (Month/Day/Year)	3A. Deemed Execution Date, if any (Month/Day/Year)	4. Transaction Code (Instr. 8)	5. Number of Derivative Securities Acquired (A) or Disposed of (D) (Instr. 3, 4, and 5)	6. Date Exercisable and Expiration Date (Month/Day/Year)	7. Title and Amount of Underlying Security (Instr. 3 and 4)
Phantom Stock Units (2)	\$ 0 (1)	12/30/2005		A	208	08/08/1988(2) 08/08/1988(2)	Class A Common Stock
Non-Statutory Stock Option (NSO) (3)	\$ 15.69					12/02/2000 12/02/2010	Class A Common Stock
Non-Statutory Stock Option (NSO) (3)	\$ 15.45					12/02/2001 12/02/2011	Class A Common Stock
Non-Statutory Stock Option (NSO) (3)	\$ 16.14					12/02/2002 12/02/2012	Class A Common Stock
	\$ 19.22					12/02/2003 12/02/2013	

Non-Statutory Stock Option (NSO) <sup>(3)</sup>				Class A Common Stock
Non-Statutory Stock Option (NSO) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 43.54	12/02/2004	12/02/2014	Class A Common Stock
Non-Statutory Stock Option (NSO) <sup>(3)</sup>	\$ 61.29	12/15/2005	12/15/2015	Class A Common Stock

## Reporting Owners

Reporting Owner Name / Address	Relationships			
	Director	10% Owner	Officer	Other
BUSCH RALPH B III C/O BERRY PETROLEUM COMPANY 5201 TRUXTUN AVE., SUITE 300 BAKERSFIELD, CA 93309	X			

## Signatures

Kenneth A. Olson under POA for Ralph B.  
Busch III. 01/03/2006

    Signature of Reporting Person

Date

## Explanation of Responses:

- \* If the form is filed by more than one reporting person, *see* Instruction 4(b)(v).
- \*\* Intentional misstatements or omissions of facts constitute Federal Criminal Violations. *See* 18 U.S.C. 1001 and 15 U.S.C. 78ff(a).
- (1) 1 for 1
- (2) Phantom Stock Units acquired under the Company's Non-Employee Director Deferred Stock and Compensation Plan in a transaction exempt under Rule 16b-3(c). Shares are issued under the terms of the Plan upon resignation from the Board.
- (3) NSO - Right to buy Berry Petroleum Company Class A Common Stock
- (4) Shares were gifted to a family foundation and are moving from direct to indirect ownership.
- (5) Shares were gifted from Mr. Busch to this family foundation and moved from direct to indirect ownership. Voting for shares will be shared by Mr. Busch and other family members.

Note: File three copies of this Form, one of which must be manually signed. If space is insufficient, *see* Instruction 6 for procedure. Potential persons who are to respond to the collection of information contained in this form are not required to respond unless the form displays a currently valid OMB number.